

Application No. 10/070,493
Amendment Dated January 14, 2005
Reply to Office Action of October 19, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this Amendment, claim 56 is amended. Claims 27, 29-31, 33-38, 40-48, 50-51, 54 and 56 are pending.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER:

It is first noted and appreciated by applications that the Examiner allowed claims 27, 29-31, 33-38, 40-48, 50-51 and 54.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

The Examiner rejected claim 56 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,682,222 (Alderfer) taken in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,337,690 (Converse et al.). The Examiner states that Alderfer discloses the method for forming belt materials for a tire but does not provide specifics of the winding process in terms of forming oppositely inclined cord materials. However, the Examiner states, it is well known to the ordinary artisan, that it is desirable to form the belt material for a tire in the forms of strips having symmetrically oppositely inclined cords (FIG. 1 of Alderfer). The Examiner goes on to state that an ordinary artisan would have found it obvious to cut different wound bodies using the FIG. 6 apparatus. Further, the Examiner states, as noted by Converse et al., it would have been expected to allow

the winding to proceed without having to move the winding head back to its original location.

This rejection is traversed based on amended claim 56 for the following reasons.

Claim 56 has been amended to recite that:

the first and second drums (35, 36) have different outer diameters (D1, D2);

the first wound body is spirally cut at a predetermined first pitch (T2) to form a first belt material (46A) having a predetermined first width (W1); and

the second wound body is spirally cut at a predetermined second pitch (T4) different from the predetermined first pitch (T2) to form a second belt material (46B) having a predetermined second width (W2) different from the predetermined first width (W1).

That is, in the claimed invention, the first and second belt materials not only have the substantially symmetrical inclination angles of the linear cords, but also the different widths. Therefore, two types of belt materials having symmetrical cord inclination angles and different widths can be simultaneously and efficiently manufactured by using the two drums having different outer diameters.

Therefore, the limitations of claim 56 are not taught or suggested by Alderfer alone or in combination with Converse et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, it is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

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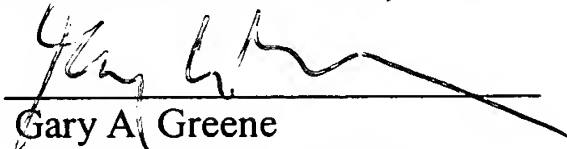
Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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